

# Annotated Documents and Expanded CIDOC-CRM Ontology in the Automatic Construction of a Virtual Museum

Cristiana Araújo, Ricardo G. Martini, Pedro Rangel Henriques  
and José João Almeida

**Abstract** The Museum of the Person (Museu da Pessoa, MP) is a virtual museum with the purpose of exhibit life stories of common people. Its assets are composed of several interviews involving people whose stories we want to perpetuate. So the museum holds an heterogeneous collection of XML (eXtensible Markup Language) documents that constitute the working repository. The main idea is to extract automatically the information included in the repository in order to build the virtual museum's exhibition rooms. The goal of this paper is to describe an architectural approach to build a system that will create the virtual rooms from the XML repository to enable visitors to lookup individual life stories and also inter-cross information among them. We adopted the standard for museum ontologies CIDOC-CRM (CIDOC Conceptual Reference Model) refined with FOAF (Friend of a Friend) and DBpedia ontologies to represent OntoMP. That ontology is intended to allow a conceptual navigation over the available information. The approach here discussed is based on a TripleStore and uses SPARQL (SPARQL Protocol and RDF Query Language) to extract the information. Aiming at the extraction of meaningful information, we built a text filter that converts the interviews into a RDF triples file that reflects the assets described by the ontology.

---

C. Araújo (✉) · R.G. Martini · P.R. Henriques · J.J. Almeida  
Department of Informatics, Algoritmi Research Centre, University of Minho,  
4710-057 Gualtar, Braga, Portugal  
e-mail: decristianaaraujo@hotmail.com

R.G. Martini  
e-mail: rgm@algoritmi.uminho.pt

P.R. Henriques  
e-mail: prh@di.uminho.pt

J.J. Almeida  
e-mail: jj@di.uminho.pt

## 1 Introduction

The society is more and more concerned with the preservation and the dissemination of Cultural Heritage, as works of art, ancient objects, and documents, among others.

Nowadays this can be achieved in a better way resorting to the information and communication technologies because they allow that the physical objects, on one hand, become accessible to anyone, and on the other hand, are not deteriorated rectos [1–3].

In this context of technological expansion, increasing the capability of extraction, storage and visualization of everyday life events, the museums have taken advantage to expand its field of action, as well as their own concept. They expand their geographical borders by providing information in their pages on the Internet and exhibiting their collections. On the other hand, completely virtual environments (called Virtual Museums, VM) appeared, without any references to physical spaces [2].

A Virtual Museum, such as a traditional museum, also acquires, conserves, and exhibits the heritage of humanity (in that case, intangible objects, or immaterial things<sup>1</sup>) creating a delightful environment for pleasure or enjoyment, as well as an appropriate place for teaching, and research.

This article is concerned with the creation of a specific Virtual Museum, the Museum of the Person (MP). The assets of the MP contains several interviews that narrate the life stories of ordinary citizens. These citizens, to report their life stories, remember events and other particular situations they have participated in. MP resources are constituted by a collection of documents in XML (eXtensible Markup Language) format.

In the article we discuss the interest and the way of building a virtual museum (that we see was a virtual learning space) to tell to the world those life stories and to extract knowledge about an epoch and a society connecting and relating them.

More precisely we aim at rebuilding npMP, the Portuguese branch of the Museum of the Person network (this network includes branches in Brazil, Portugal, USA, Canada, etc.) that connect individuals and groups through sharing their life stories (<http://www.museumoftheperson.org/about/>).

In this paper, and after a brief introduction to MP (Sect. 1.1), we discuss the ontology built to describe the museums knowledge repository (Sect. 2), then we present different technical approaches to implement the desired virtual museum (Sect. 3) and, finally, we introduce and describe the first module of our system that extracts required information from XML repository and its storage in the triple store that instantiate the ontology (Sect. 4).

Besides OntoMP, an ontology for the museum of the person that is new and a first contribution of this work, also the extension of the standard CIDOC-CRM for museums with FOAF and DBpedia concepts and properties is another contribution presented. The discussion on DBpedia inclusion is new material not yet presented in previous conference version of this article.

---

<sup>1</sup>According to: <http://www.unesco.org/culture/ich/index.php?lg=en&Zpg=00022#art2>.

An important contribution of our work presented in the paper is the detailed definition of a generic architecture for the implementation of a system that creates the museum exhibition rooms from the documents repository. Moreover we designed and propose two possible implementations of that generic architecture, one more appropriate for situations where the repository is stored in a relational database, and the other to be used when the repository is archived in a triple-store. Our aim is to compare both approaches to understand the development effort involved in each one and to learn their benefits and drawbacks.

At the best of our knowledge there are not similar projects that use ontologies and tools to generate automatically virtual learning spaces from their specifications, neither in the scope of MP nor in the context of other virtual museums. So we will not include a section on related work. For the sake of space (necessary to introduce all the novelties of this paper) we decided not to include a state of the art section; the reader is referred to the authors pre-thesis [4, 5], where we review the form main topics: Ontologies and CIDOC-CRM; Cultural Heritage; Learning Spaces; and Virtual Museums.

## 1.1 *Museum of the Person, an Overview*

Museum of the Person aims at gathering testimonials from every human being, famous or anonymous, to perpetuate his history [1, 3].

Life stories are evidences in support of facts or statements attested by common people carrying a social and historical character, which must be preserved and processed to become an immeasurable human heritage (intangible or immaterial things). The interviewed are used as informers, reporting the events and emotions they experienced [1].

To report their life stories during a predefined structured interview, the narrators remember events and other particular situations they have participated in. These memories will act as a basic element for social research [1].

The Museum of the Person's collection consists of sets of XML documents, specified by a DTD (Document Type Definition created specially for that purpose and called MP-DTD) related with each participant. Typically each interview is split into three parts [6]:

- **BI:** a brief biography and personal data, such as name, date and place of birth, and job;
- **interview:** two versions of the interview are built and saved—the *interview* file refers to the raw interview and contains all the questions asked and the narrator's answers; the *edited* file is a plain text, structured by themes that define small portions of a person's life story. In this format, a life story may give rise to thematic stories (e.g., dating, childhood, craft, among others). Both *interview* and *edited* files contain metadata tagging;
- **photographs and their caption.** This caption includes a description of the image, people depicted, place and the date.

Aside the interviews, there is also a *thesaurus* that includes key concepts mentioned in the stories.

Details about the elements that constitute each DTD will be mentioned in the next section that will discuss the development of MP's ontology (OntoMP). For more details on Museum of the Person please see [7].

## 2 The CIDOC-CRM Ontology for MP, OntoMP

### 2.1 OntoMP: Original Design

After an exhaustive analysis of all the documents (XML instances, respective DTD's, and the thesaurus) that belong to Museum of the Person, we could identify the concepts and relations involved in the life stories. This first step enabled us to design OntoMP, an ontology for the Museum of the Person. In this way, the museum visitor can have a conceptual navigation over the collection.

The main concepts extracted from the analysis phase are: people (*pessoa*), ancestry (*ascendência*), offspring (*descendência*), job (*profissão*), house episode (*episódio casa*), education episode (*episódio educação*), dating episode (*episódio namoro*), general episode (*episódio geral*), childhood episode (*episódio infância*), leisure episode (*episódio lazer*), religious episode (*episódio religioso*), accident (*evento acidente*), migration (*migração*), life's philosophy (*filosofia de vida*), festivity (*festividade*), catastrophic event (*evento catastrófico*), political event (*evento político*), marriage (*casamento*), birth (*nascimento*), dream (*sonho*), uses (*costumes*), religion (*religião*) [7, 8].

In a similar way we also identified the following relations: performs (*exerce*), depicted (*éRetratada*), visits (*visita*), lives (*vive*), receives (*recebe*), tells (*narra*), has (*tem*), has-type (*tipo*), enrolls (*participa*), occurs (*ocorre*), refers to (*dizRespeito*) [7, 8].

Then we realized that some more elements should be added to the ontology. The concepts added were: marital status (*estadoCívil*), spouse (*cônjuge*), widowhood (*viuvez*), sex (*sexo*), literacy (*habilitações literárias*), political party (*partido político*), first communion (*primeira comunhão*), death (*morte*), baptism (*batismo*), child's birth (*nascimento do filho*), photos (*fotos*), description (*descrição*) and file (*ficheiro*) [7, 8].

The ontology so far obtained is depicted in Fig. 1.

Figure 1 shows the main concepts in a life story (ellipsis) related with Person and also shows his main data properties (rectangles). Figure 1 enhances Event concept (a relevant component of OntoMP) and its different sorts (subclasses).

To validate the ontology designed, we created some instances using actual life stories picked-up from the MP collection, as can be consulted in the projects site at the <http://npmp.epl.di.uminho.pt>. Notice that all those interviews were conducted in the past and we got written permissions to publish them.

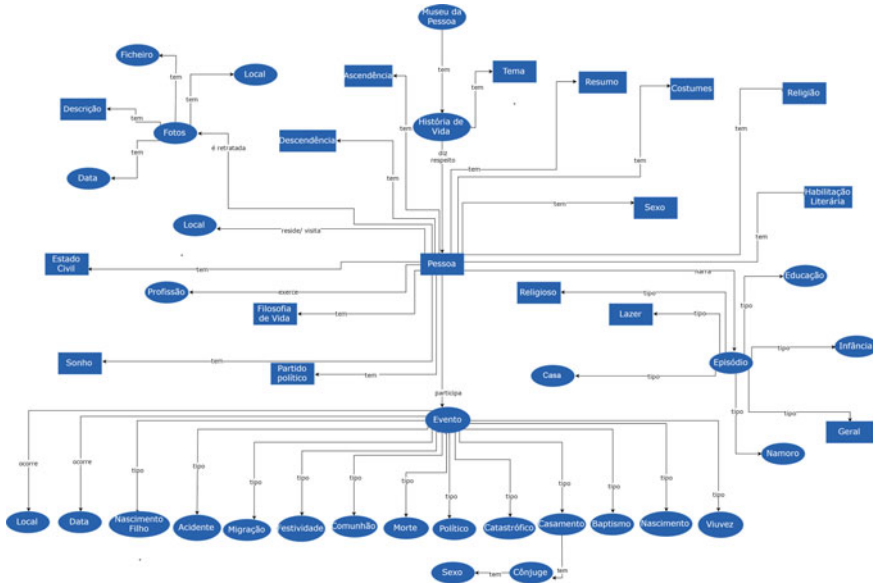


Fig. 1 An ontology *OntoMP: Original Design* for MP

## 2.2 *OntoMP: CIDOC-CRM/FOAF/DBpedia Representation*

After the validation and tuning of *OntoMP*, the next stage was to describe it in a standard ontology format used for museums, CIDOC-CRM (CIDOC Conceptual Reference Model). For that purpose we have followed the approach adopted in the context of another project to build Portuguese Emigration virtual museum [9].

CIDOC-CRM is a formal ontology planned to aid in the integration, mediation, and interchange of heterogeneous Cultural Heritage information [10]. It specifies the semantics of museums documentation.

CIDOC-CRM is an Event-based ontology, and therefore it should contain *Time-Spans* and *Places* related with each event. The core of CIDOC-CRM is based on seven concepts: *Temporal Entities*, *Events*, *Actors*, *Time-Spans*, *Conceptual Objects*, *Physical Things*, and *Places*. Notice that, *Actors* and *Conceptual Objects* or *Physical Things* should also be related with *Event* [10].

The transformation of *OntoMP: Original Design* in CIDOC-CRM was a straightforward process; the original concepts were expressed as events and associated concepts, and the original relations were mapped into the correspondent in CIDOC-CRM.

However, we found that some properties related with person could not be expressed in CIDOC-CRM in a simple and natural manner. So we decided to explore the combination with FOAF (Friend of a Friend) and DBpedia, since both contain

a vocabulary specific to describe individuals, their activities and their relations with other people and objects [11].

FOAF ontology describes two areas of digital identity information: biographical and social network information [12].

DBpedia ontology is a shallow, cross-domain ontology, which has been manually created based on the most commonly used infoboxes within Wikipedia. DBpedia knowledge base covers various fields, such as geographic information, people, businesses, online communities, movies, music, books and scientific publications, among others [13].

After this investigation, we refined CIDOC-CRM adding some pertinent FOAF and DBpedia concepts and properties. Regarding FOAF, we imported *gender* property, person names (*name*, *givenName*, *familyName* and *nick*) and person-image relations (*depicts* and *depiction*). From DBpedia we picked up properties like *religion*, *profession*, *education*, *party* and *spouse*.

After the refinement of CIDOC-CRM ontology with FOAF and DBpedia elements, we got a simpler notation (descriptions became less verbose); moreover the original was enriched conceptually, this is more details about person's stories can be included in the knowledge base. The final OntoMP represented in this new notation was once again instantiated with concrete data extracted from the real life stories. It was possible to validate it once more.

In Fig. 2 we show an instance of the ontology created with data extracted from Maria Cacheira interview. Below we describe the CIDOC-CRM, FOAF and DBpedia fragment reproduced.

A person (*E21 Person*), *gender* Female, *name* Maria Alice Rodrigues Cacheira (decomposed in *givenName* Maria Alice and *familyName* Rodrigues Cacheira), *participated in* (*E5 Event*) that is her birth (*E67 Birth*). This event occurred at a (*E52 Time Span*)—that is identified by (*P78*) 1946-10-08, an (*E50 Date*)—and at a (*E53 Place*)—that is identified by (*P87*) Afurada an (*E44 Place Appellation*).

This person (*E21 Person*) is *depicted in* the photo (*E38 Image*). This photo is identified by (*P1*) 090-F-01.jpg (*E41 Appellation*), *has note* (*P3*) Maria Alice Rodrigues Cacheira, *refers to* (*P67*) Maria Alice Rodrigues Cacheira (*E55 Type Description*), and was taken in a (*E52 Time Span*)—that is identified by (*P78*) 2001-12-07, an (*E50 Date*)—and at a (*E53 Place*)—that is identified by (*P87*) Junta de Freguesia da Afurada, an (*E44 Place Appellation*).

A person (*E21 Person*) has *education* “Saber e escrever (4ª classe)”, professes the *religion* “Católica” and has *profession* “Peixeira e Empregada de limpeza”.

In this fragment of Maria Cacheira's life story other concepts can be identified. All these concepts, that characterize a (*E21 Person*), are represented in CIDOC-CRM version, as (*E55 Type*). For example, (*E21 Person*) has *type* (*P2*) “Viúva” (*E55 Type Marital Status*).

The person's properties imported from FOAF (above identified) are emphasized in Fig. 2 using dotted line. Similarly, DBpedia properties used are enhanced as dashed line.

This CIDOC-CRM ontology enriched with FOAF and DBpedia elements can describe appropriately the knowledge repository of the Museum of the Person.

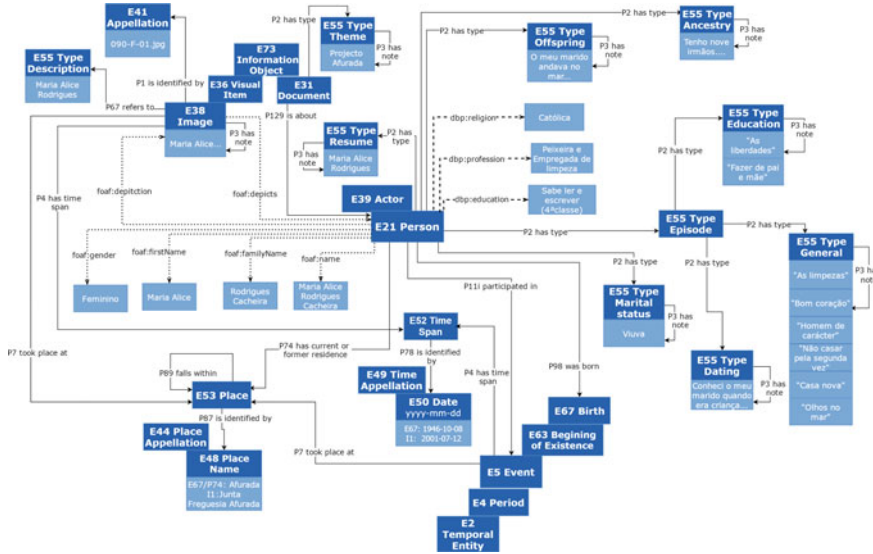


Fig. 2 An instance of CIDOC-CRM/FOAF/DBpedia representation of OntoMP for Maria Cacheira life story (fragment)

### 3 Proposed Architectures

This section presents a general approach to create a system that builds automatically the Museum of the Person from its repository.

This proposal is defined at an abstract level so that the main architectural blocks and their interactions can be clearly understood; the data flow and the main transformations will be emphasized without technological commitments. We have devised and sketched two possible technical alternatives to implement general architecture. However after describing the general approach, only alternative 1 will be detailed because is the one we chose to refine that architecture.

The general approach, illustrated in Fig. 3, to build the MP comprises: the repository; the Ingestion Function [M1] responsible for getting and processing the input data; a Data Storage (DS) that is the data digital archive; an Ontology to map and link the concepts with the objects stored in (DS); the Generator (M2) to extract data from (DS) and manage the information that will be displayed in Virtual Learning Spaces (VLS) (the final objective of this project) [8].

As said above this general approach has two possible refinements, which are dependent on the (DS). In approach 1 (Figs. 4 and 5) the [DS] is a *TripleStore*, while in approach 2 the (DS) is a *Relational Database*. According to the kind of storage chosen, the ingestion function and the learning spaces generator will require different designs [8].

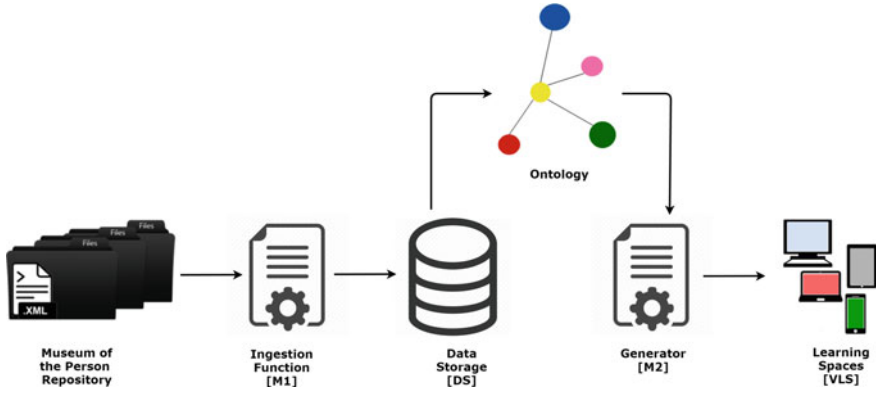


Fig. 3 General Approach to build the MP

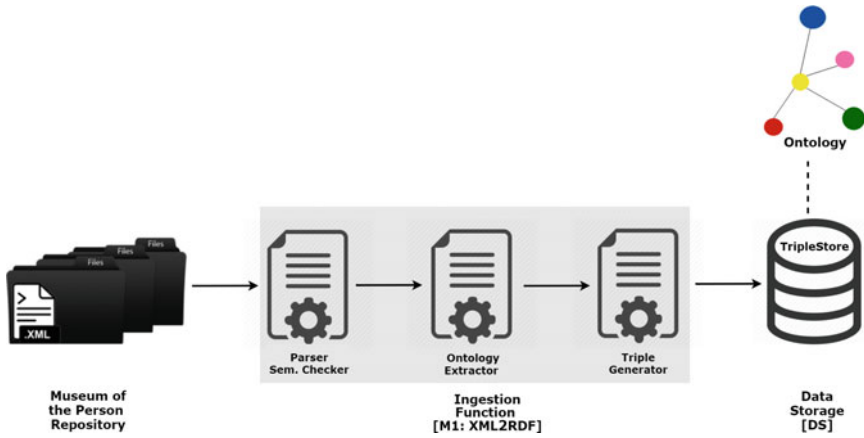


Fig. 4 Module [M1] in Approach 1

The project here imported, we are following the approach 1, so we will describe it in more detail in Sect. 3.1.

In Approach 2 the input XML documents must be converted into SQL to populate the respective database. So, Ingestion Function (M1) is composed of the following components: *Parser and Semantic Checker* that reads the repository documents and extracts the relevant data (annotated in XML), checking their semantic consistency; and *SQL Generator* that generates automatically the SQL statements that insert the retrieved data into the database tables. After the two phases of Ingestion Function [M1] the documents data populate the Relational Database schema, due to the SQL statements generated. As this schema is not directly related to the ontology, in this second approach an explicit mapping is necessary. Making this mapping available, it is possible to resort to CaVa (Criação de Ambientes Virtuais de Aprendizagem) system [4] to build automatically the Virtual Learning Spaces (VLS). Notice that



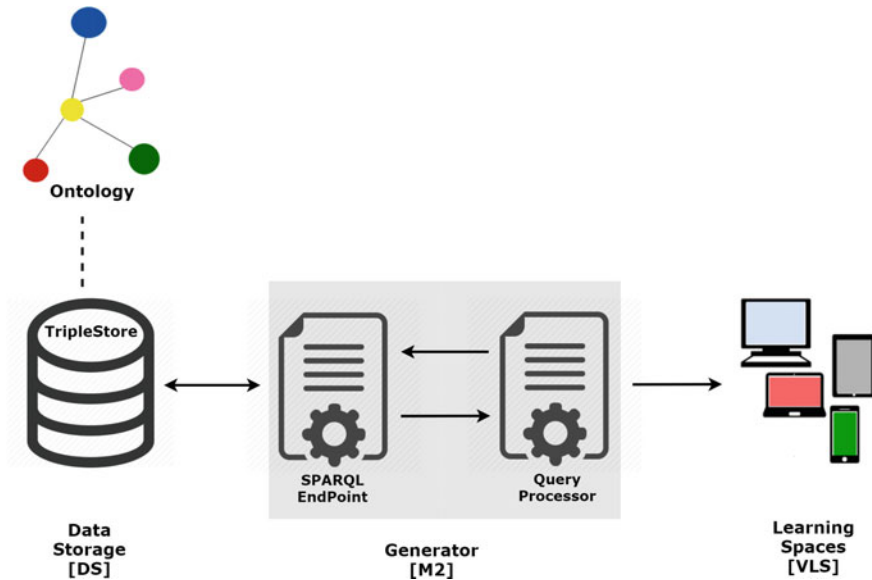


Fig. 5 Module (M2) in Approach 1

only the generator module of CaVa,  $CaVa^{Gen}$  will be used in this context. In this case, Generator [M2] is composed of: *DB2Onto Mapping* that associates concepts and relations belonging to the ontology with their respective instances stored in database (it allows to access database tables and fields to get the instances of the ontology concepts); and  $CaVa^{Gen}$ , that generates automatically the Virtual Learning Spaces from their formal specification based on the ontology.

In this second approach all the work concerned with the query generation according to the exhibition requirements and the answer processing to fulfill the rooms templates is left to  $CaVa^{Gen}$ . The only thing that is needed is the specification of the desired learning spaces in  $CaVa^{DSL}$ . For more details about this approach please read [8]. The next section will detail approach 1.

### 3.1 Approach 1

As said above, Approach 1 is based on the decision of using a TripleStore as data storage (DS). According to this decision, Ingestion Module and the Generator Module must be adapted; the first will transform the input XML (eXtensible Markup Language) documents into RDF (Resource Description Framework) triples, and the second will retrieve information from the RDF triples to create the museum web pages.

Figure 4 details the first module that is composed of three blocks [8]:

- *Parser and Semantic Checker* that reads the repository documents and extracts the relevant data (annotated in XML), checking their semantic consistency;
- *Ontology Extractor* that identifies in the extracted data the concepts and relations that belong to the ontology creating in this way an instance of the abstract ontology (in another words, this component populates the ontology);
- *Triple Generator* that converts automatically the ontology triples (created in the preceding block) into triples in RDF notation appropriated to be stored in the (DS) chosen.

At an early stage, to realize the kind of information that contains the documents and how we would represent, we decided to conduct the analysis and extraction of information from documents manually. This means that we accomplished the three phases of Ingestion Module manually.

Among the many existing notations for describing ontologies we chose RDF because we use CIDOC-CRM, FOAF and DBpedia that are described in its original form in RDF. An excerpt of the RDF triples built by hand is shown in Listing 1.

**Listing 1** Fragment of the RDF Triples for Maria Cacheira life story

```

1 <!-- Description Interviewed 1 -->
2 <rdf:Description rdf:about="&ecrm;Interviewed_1">
3   <rdf:type
4     rdf:resource="&ecrm;E21_Person"/>
5   <rdf:type rdf:resource=
6     "http://dbpedia.org/ontology/Person"/>
7   <rdf:type rdf:resource="&foaf;Person"/>
8   <foaf:firstName
9     rdf:datatype="&xsd:string">Maria
10    Alice</foaf:firstName>
11   <foaf:name
12     rdf:datatype="&xsd:string">Maria Alice
13    Rodrigues Cacheira</foaf:name>
14   <foaf:familyName
15     rdf:datatype="&xsd:string"> Rodrigues
16    Cacheira</foaf:familyName>
17   <P98i_was_born rdf:resource="&ecrm;B1"/>
18   <foaf:gender rdf:datatype="&xsd:string">
19    Feminino</foaf:gender>
20   <foaf:depiction rdf:resource=
21     "&ecrm;I1_Interviewed_1"/>
22   <dbp:profession
23     rdf:datatype="&xsd:string"> Peixeira e
24    empregada de limpeza</dbp:profession>
25   <dbp:religion rdf:datatype="&xsd:string">
26    Catolica</dbp:religion>
27   <dbp:education
28     rdf:datatype="&xsd:string"> Sabe ler e escrever

```

```

    (quarta classe)</dbp:education>
  </rdf:Description>
18
19 <!-- Event Birth Interviewed 1 (B1) -->
20 <rdf:Description rdf:about="&ecrm;B1">
21   <rdf:type rdf:resource="&ecrm;E67_Birth"/>
22   <P98_brought_into_life rdf:resource=
23     "&ecrm;Interviewed_1"/>
24   <P4_has_time-span
25     rdf:resource="&ecrm;TS1"/>
26   <P7_took_place_at
27     rdf:resource="&ecrm;PL1"/>
28 </rdf:Description>
29
30 <!-- Description Photo Interviewed 1 (I1) -->
31 <rdf:Description
32   rdf:about="&ecrm;I1_Interviewed_1">
33   <rdf:type rdf:resource="&ecrm;E38_Image"/>
34   <rdf:type rdf:resource="&foaf;Image"/>
35   <foaf:depicts
36     rdf:resource="&ecrm;Interviewed_1"/>
37   <P67_refers_to rdf:resource=
38     "&ecrm;I1_Description_Interviewed_1"/>
39   <P3_has_note rdf:datatype="&xsd:string">
40     Maria Alice Rodrigues Cacheira</P3_has_note>
41   <P1_is_identified_by rdf:resource=
42     "&ecrm;090-F-01.jpg"/>
43   <P4_has_time-span
44     rdf:resource="&ecrm;TS7"/>
45   <P7_took_place_at
46     rdf:resource="&ecrm;PL8"/>
47 </rdf:Description>

```

The triple fragment shown in Listing 1 contains information about life story of Maria Cacheira. The biographic information about Maria Cacheira, as name (first, last name and full name), birth, sex, photo, profession, religion, and education is displayed in first section (line 1–17). The birth event of Maria Cacheira, date and place of it, is described in the second section (line 19–25). Finally, the last section (line 27–37) contains specific information about the photo of the interviewed, such as description, legend, file, date and place.

The next step was to use the W3C online tool RDF Validator<sup>2</sup> to validate the handwritten triples to ensure that the very long textual description produced contains no errors. RDF Validator checks the consistency of the triple RDF and displays them in a table with three columns ‘subject, predicate and object’. After loading our RDF file we got, as feedback, the information “*VALIDATION RESULTS: Your RDF document validated successfully*” that is just what we want to get from that tool.

The next step, after the successful validation, was to store the triples in a data set, a RDF database, called Apache Jena TDB.

<sup>2</sup><https://www.w3.org/RDF/Validator/>.

TDB is a component of Jena (free and open source Java framework for building Semantic Web and Linked Data applications) for RDF storage and query, and can be used as a high performance RDF store on a single machine. A TDB store can be accessed and managed with the provided command line scripts and via the Jena API. Apache Jena Fuseki component provides a SPARQL server to be used with TDB [14].

By performing these three phases of the Ingestion Function (M1), we understand how to make the extraction and analysis of semantic concepts and how to convert the triple ontology in RDF triples. You also realize that it is a very time consuming work to be done manually for all documents in the repository study, then we decide to create a tool to do these three phases automatically. This tool will be described in detail in Sect. 4.

As the mapping between the domain ontology (previously defined) and the data extracted from the repository is automatically built by construction in the second block, above, there is no need to create explicitly this mapping. It means that the Generator [M2] can access directly the storage to obtain the conceptual information necessary to create the exhibition rooms [8].

To display in the Virtual Learning Spaces (VLS) the information stored in (DS)–TripleStore, the (VLS) Generator needs to send queries and process the returned data.

Figure 5 shows the second module [M2] (the Generator) that is composed of two blocks [8]:

- *SPARQL Endpoint* that receives and interprets the SPARQL queries, accesses the TripleStore and returns the answers. For this, it is necessary to resort to a SPARQL Endpoint. The SPARQL endpoint used was Apache Jena Fuseki (version 2.0).

Apache Jena Fuseki is a SPARQL server, that can run as an operating system service, as a Java web application (WAR file), and as a standalone server. Fuseki is tightly integrated with TDB to provide a robust, transactional persistent storage layer, and incorporates Jena text query and Jena spatial query [15]. To check if we could extract information from the created ontology, we built some queries. An example of a query that has been built is the one listed below to find the name of the Interviewed of a given sex and residence.

**Listing 2** Query SPARQL: Interviewed by sex and residence

```

1 PREFIX : <http://erlangen-crm.org/150929/>
2 PREFIX foaf: <http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/>
3 PREFIX dbp: <http://dbpedia.org/ontology/>
4 PREFIX rdf:
      <http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#>
5 PREFIX xsd: <http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#>
6
7 SELECT DISTINCT ?name
8
9 WHERE {
10
```

```

11   ?pessoa a :E21_Person;
12     :P129_is_subject_of ?doc;
13     foaf:name ?name;
14     foaf:gender "sexInterviewed"^^xsd:string ;
15     :P74_has_current_or_former_residence ?place.
16     ?place :P87_is_identified_by ?parish .
17     ?parish :P3_has_note
18         "Name-Residence"^^xsd:string .
19 } ORDER BY ?name

```

The code block between lines 11 and 17 of Listing 2 is designed to search for all respondents (*E21\_Person*) of a given sex (*foaf:gender*) who live in a given location (*:P74\_has\_current\_or\_former\_residence*). For example it can be instantiated to, list all the female respondents living in Afurada. The property *foaf:name* describes the full name of each respondent.

For more information on the results and executed queries, please see:

<http://nmpm.epl.di.uminho.pt>.

- *Query Processor* generates the SPARQL queries according to the exhibition room requirements, sends them to the SPARQL Endpoint and after receiving the answer, combines the returned data to set up the Virtual Learning Spaces (VLS).

We created a Python script that generates SPARQL queries according to the requirements of each exhibition room, sends them to the Fuseki (SPARQL Endpoint) and after receiving the answer, combines the data returned to configure the Virtual Learning Spaces (VLS). This Python script also includes HTML (Hyper Text Markup Language) and CSS (Cascading Style Sheets) to create and format the web page.

Finally, to exhibit the life stories that are the objects of the Museum of the Person, the web pages were built (Virtual Learning Spaces).

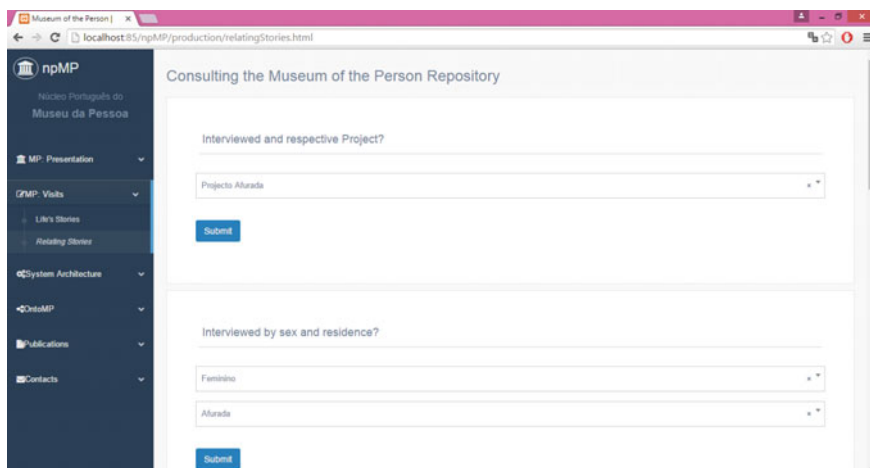
Figure 6 displays the page where the museum visitor can perform the SPARQL queries.

The answer to the query referred in Listing 2 (Interviewed by sex and residence) is shown in the Fig. 7.

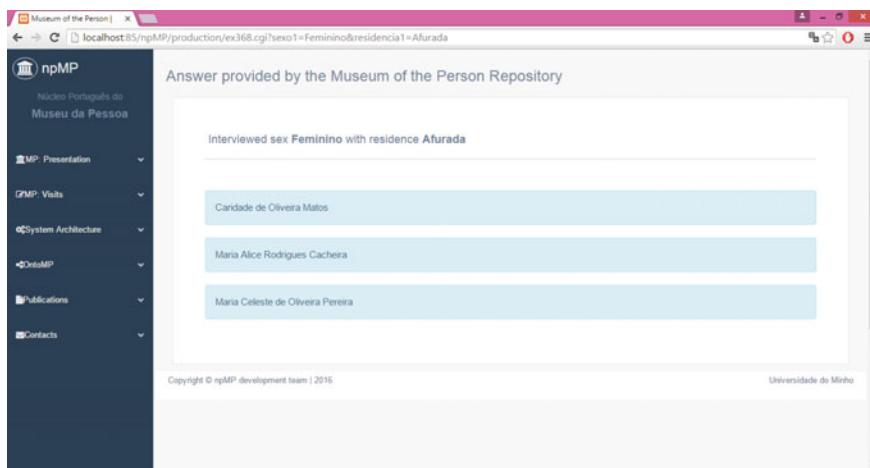
In this approach, each Virtual Learning Space (a museum's exhibition room) is built fulfilling a web page template with the concrete data retrieved from the data store.

## 4 XML Repository and Ontology Extraction

As mentioned in Sect. 3.1, we initially performed the extraction and analysis of the semantic concepts, and convert manually those triples into RDF triples. After understanding the structure of the documents, the information they contain and how to convert the ontology triples into RDF triples, we decided to develop a text filter able



**Fig. 6** Consulting the Museum of the person repository



**Fig. 7** Response to the SPARQL query: *Interviewed by sex and residence*

to scan all files that compose an interview (BI, Edited Interview and Photograph Captions), extract relevant information and convert into a single RDF triples file.

To develop the text filter we used the compilers generator system ANTLR (Another Tool for Language Recognition) [16] integrated in ANTLRWorks tool, version 2.1, a plugin for NetBeans IDE. ANTLR is a powerful parser generator for reading, and processing structured text files; so it is extensively used to build language-based tools, and frameworks.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>3</sup><http://www.antlr.org/index.html>.

In our case, from a set of Regular Expressions (RE), AnTLR will generate a Lexical Analyzer that realizes the desired text filter for data extraction.

That text filter, or extractor, will accept an input document, like the one exemplified in Listing 3, and after analyzing and processing it will output a RDF description, like the one shown in Listing 4.

**Listing 3** An XML input document

```

1 <?xml version="1.0" encoding="ISO-8859-1" ?>
2 <fotos>
3   <foto ficheiro="090-F-01.jpg">
4     <quem>Maria Alice Rodrigues
5     Cacheira</quem>
6     <onde>Junta de Freguesia da Afurada</onde>
7     <quando data="2001-07-12" />
8   </foto>
9   <foto ficheiro="090-F-02.jpg">
10    <quem>Maria Alice Rodrigues
11    Cacheira</quem>
12    <onde>Junta de Freguesia da
13    Afurada</onde><
14    <quando data="2001-07-12" />
15  </foto>
16 </fotos>

```

**Listing 4** An RDF output document

```

1 <rdf:Description rdf:about="&ecrm;090-F-01.jpg">
2   <rdf:type rdf:resource="&ecrm;E41_Appellation" />
3 </rdf:Description>
4
5 <rdf:Description rdf:about="&ecrm;I0_Interviewed_1" />
6   <rdf:type rdf:resource="&ecrm;E38_Image" />
7   <rdf:type rdf:resource="&foaf;Image" />
8   <foaf:depicts rdf:resource="&ecrm;Interviewed_1" />
9   <P67_refers_to
10    rdf:resource="&ecrm;I0_Description_Interview_1" />
11   <P1_is_identified_by rdf:resource="&ecrm;090-F-01.jpg" />
12   <P4_has_time-span rdf:resource="&ecrm;TS1" />
13   <P7_took_place_at rdf:resource="&ecrm;PL1" />
14 </rdf:Description>
15
16 <rdf:Description rdf:about="&ecrm;2001-07-12">
17   <rdf:type rdf:resource="&ecrm;E49_Time_Appellation" />
18 </rdf:Description>
19
20 <rdf:Description rdf:about="&ecrm;TS1">
21   <rdf:type rdf:resource="&ecrm;E52_Time-Span" />
22   <P78_is_identified_by rdf:resource="&ecrm;2001-07-12" />
23 </rdf:Description>
24
25 <rdf:Description rdf:about="&ecrm;PL1">
26   <rdf:type rdf:resource="&ecrm;E53_Place" />
27   <P87_is_identified_by rdf:resource="&ecrm;Place1" />
28 </rdf:Description>
29
30 <rdf:Description rdf:about="&ecrm;Place1">
31   <rdf:type rdf:resource="&ecrm;E48_Place_Name" />

```

```

31     <P3_has_note rdf:datatype="&xsd:string">Junta de Freguesia da
32     Afurada</P3_has_note>
33 </rdf:Description>
34 <rdf:Description rdf:about="&ecrm;I0_Description_Interview_1">
35     <rdf:type rdf:resource="&ecrm;E55_Type"/>
36     <P2_has_type rdf:resource="&ecrm;Description"/>
37     <P3_has_note rdf:datatype="&xsd:string">Maria Alice Rodrigues
38     Cacheira</P3_has_note>
39 </rdf:Description>
40 <rdf:Description rdf:about="&ecrm;090-F-02.jpg">
41     <rdf:type rdf:resource="&ecrm;E41_Appellation"/>
42 </rdf:Description>
43 <rdf:Description rdf:about="&ecrm;I1_Interviewed_1"/>
44     <rdf:type rdf:resource="&ecrm;E38_Image"/>
45     <rdf:type rdf:resource="&foaf;Image"/>
46     <foaf:depicts rdf:resource="&ecrm;Interviewed_1"/>
47     <P67_refers_to
48     rdf:resource="&ecrm;I1_Description_Interview_1"/>
49     <P1_is_identified_by rdf:resource="&ecrm;090-F-02.jpg"/>
50     <P4_has_time-span rdf:resource="&ecrm;T51"/>
51     <P7_took_place_at rdf:resource="&ecrm;PL1"/>
52 </rdf:Description>

```

That automatic transformation is obtained using a specification (an *AnTLR Lexer grammar*) illustrated in Listing 5. The fragment shown in the referred listing is a sequence of transformation rules that corresponds to the beginning of the global specification (the specification part not included will be discussed below). Each rule has a name and a pair composed of a Regular Expression (RE) and a Semantic Action (SE) written in Java. A rule is interpreted from left to right: if the Regular Expression is found in the input, then the corresponding Semantic Action is triggered. The RE defines the text pattern that shall be found in the input, and the SE specifies how the concrete text found shall be transformed.

Moreover, AnTLR lets the programmer to set up modes that group the specific rules to address each sub block in the input file.

In Listing 5 it can be seen the three rules (namely, *Cabec*, *Fotos e MP*) corresponding to the three input files (*BI*, *Photography Captions*, and *Edited Interview*), respectively. When the extractor reads a XML tag defining the beginning of one of these three documents, it enters a special AnTLR mode to process that document's content.

Listing 6 shows the main mode to process the *Photography Caption* XML documents. The listing illustrates the general approach adopted: when a block opening tag is found, the appropriate mode is entered to consume the block contents; when the block closing tag is found, the processor exits the mode and returns to the initial mode.

The four auxiliary modes, called from the main one (see lines 13–19), contains the specific rules used to extract information from the four main blocks of the *Photography Captions* input document. Listing 7 contains the rules (just a fragment is shown) executed at the end of the processing (mode activated at line 21) to print out the RDF triples built in the internal representation. This grammar fragment is actually responsible for the generation of the RDF output file.



**Listing 5** XML2RDF Lexer Grammar for AnTLR

```

1 | lexer grammar XML2RDF;
2 |
3 | Cabec : '<'[Bb][Ii] '>' ->
      | mode(sBI)
4 | ;
5 | Fotos : '<'[Ff][Oo][Tt][Oo][Ss] '>' -> mode
      | (sFOTOS)
6 | ;
7 | MP : '<'[Mm][Pp] '>' -> mode
      | (sMP)
8 | ;
9 | Default: . { ; }
10 | ;
11 |
12 | ...
13 | .....Modes specification.....
14 | ...

```

**Listing 6** Lexer Grammar Photos main Mode

```

1 | mode sFOTOS;
2 | GetSFOTOS : '<foto ' -> mode(sFOTO)
3 | ;
4 | OutFOTOSSAVE : '</fotos>' ->
      | mode(DEFAULT_MODE)
5 | ;
6 | DefaultsFOTOS : . { ; }
7 | ;
8 |
9 |
10 | mode sFOTO;
11 | GetFOTO : [ ]+'ficheiro=" ' -> mode
      | (sFICHEIRO)
12 | ;
13 | GetQUEM : '<quem>' -> mode (sQUEM)
14 | ;
15 | GetQUANDO : '<quando>' -> mode
      | (sQUANDO)
16 | ;
17 | GetFACTO : '<facto>' -> mode
      | (sFACTO)
18 | ;
19 | GetONDE : '<onde>' -> mode (sONDE)
20 | ;
21 | OutFOTOS : '</ ' -> mode
      | (sPRINTTUDO)
22 | ;
23 |
24 | DefaultsFOTO : . { ; }
25 | ;

```

**Listing 7** Lexer Grammar Print Mode

```

1 mode sPRINTTUDO;
2 GetsPRINTTUDO : 'foto' {
3
4     pessoa.AddImage("I"+newCountKeyFicheiro+"_Interviewed_"+
5     countinterview);
6
7     System.out.print("<rdf:Description
8     rdf:about=\"%&ecrm;\"");
9
10    System.out.println(ficheiro+"\>");
11    System.out.println("\<rdf:type
12    rdf:resource=\"%&ecrm;E41_Appellation\"/>");
13
14    System.out.println("</rdf:Description>\n\n");
15
16    System.out.println("<rdf:Description
17    rdf:about=\"%&ecrm;I"+newCountKeyFicheiro+"_Interviewed_"+
18    countinterview+"\>");
19
20    System.out.println("\<rdf:type
21    rdf:resource=\"%&ecrm;E38_Image\"/>");
22    System.out.println("\<rdf:type
23    rdf:resource=\"%&foaf;Image\"/>");
24
25    System.out.println("\<foaf:depicts
26    rdf:resource=\"%&ecrm;Interviewed_"+countinterview+"\>");
27
28    if(!quem.equals("")){
29        System.out.println("\<P67_refers_to
30        rdf:resource=\"%&ecrm;I"+newCountKeyFicheiro+"_Description_I
31        nterview_"+ countinterview+"\>");
32
33        if(!facto.equals("")){
34            System.out.println("\<P3_has_note
35            rdf:datatype=\"%&xsd:string\">"+facto+"</P3_has_note>"); }
36
37        System.out.println("\<P1_is_identified_by
38        rdf:resource=\"%&ecrm;"+ficheiro+"\>");
39
40        ...
41
42        ...
43
44        ...
45
46        ...
47
48        ...
49
50        ...
51
52        ...
53
54        ...
55
56        ...
57
58        ...
59
60        ...
61
62        ...
63
64        ...
65
66        ...
67
68        ...
69
70        ...
71
72        ...
73
74        ...
75
76        ...
77
78        ...
79
80        ...
81
82        ...
83
84        ...
85
86        ...
87
88        ...
89
90        ...
91
92        ...
93
94        ...
95
96        ...
97
98        ...
99
100       ...
101
102       ...
103
104       ...
105
106       ...
107
108       ...
109
110       ...
111
112       ...
113
114       ...
115
116       ...
117
118       ...
119
120       ...
121
122       ...
123
124       ...
125
126       ...
127
128       ...
129
130       ...
131
132       ...
133
134       ...
135
136       ...
137
138       ...
139
140       ...
141
142       ...
143
144       ...
145
146       ...
147
148       ...
149
150       ...
151
152       ...
153
154       ...
155
156       ...
157
158       ...
159
160       ...
161
162       ...
163
164       ...
165
166       ...
167
168       ...
169
170       ...
171
172       ...
173
174       ...
175
176       ...
177
178       ...
179
180       ...
181
182       ...
183
184       ...
185
186       ...
187
188       ...
189
190       ...
191
192       ...
193
194       ...
195
196       ...
197
198       ...
199
200       ...
201
202       ...
203
204       ...
205
206       ...
207
208       ...
209
210       ...
211
212       ...
213
214       ...
215
216       ...
217
218       ...
219
220       ...
221
222       ...
223
224       ...
225
226       ...
227
228       ...
229
230       ...
231
232       ...
233
234       ...
235
236       ...
237
238       ...
239
240       ...
241
242       ...
243
244       ...
245
246       ...
247
248       ...
249
250       ...
251
252       ...
253
254       ...
255
256       ...
257
258       ...
259
260       ...
261
262       ...
263
264       ...
265
266       ...
267
268       ...
269
270       ...
271
272       ...
273
274       ...
275
276       ...
277
278       ...
279
280       ...
281
282       ...
283
284       ...
285
286       ...
287
288       ...
289
290       ...
291
292       ...
293
294       ...
295
296       ...
297
298       ...
299
300       ...
301
302       ...
303
304       ...
305
306       ...
307
308       ...
309
310       ...
311
312       ...
313
314       ...
315
316       ...
317
318       ...
319
320       ...
321
322       ...
323
324       ...
325
326       ...
327
328       ...
329
330       ...
331
332       ...
333
334       ...
335
336       ...
337
338       ...
339
340       ...
341
342       ...
343
344       ...
345
346       ...
347
348       ...
349
350       ...
351
352       ...
353
354       ...
355
356       ...
357
358       ...
359
360       ...
361
362       ...
363
364       ...
365
366       ...
367
368       ...
369
370       ...
371
372       ...
373
374       ...
375
376       ...
377
378       ...
379
380       ...
381
382       ...
383
384       ...
385
386       ...
387
388       ...
389
390       ...
391
392       ...
393
394       ...
395
396       ...
397
398       ...
399
400       ...
401
402       ...
403
404       ...
405
406       ...
407
408       ...
409
410       ...
411
412       ...
413
414       ...
415
416       ...
417
418       ...
419
420       ...
421
422       ...
423
424       ...
425
426       ...
427
428       ...
429
430       ...
431
432       ...
433
434       ...
435
436       ...
437
438       ...
439
440       ...
441
442       ...
443
444       ...
445
446       ...
447
448       ...
449
450       ...
451
452       ...
453
454       ...
455
456       ...
457
458       ...
459
460       ...
461
462       ...
463
464       ...
465
466       ...
467
468       ...
469
470       ...
471
472       ...
473
474       ...
475
476       ...
477
478       ...
479
480       ...
481
482       ...
483
484       ...
485
486       ...
487
488       ...
489
490       ...
491
492       ...
493
494       ...
495
496       ...
497
498       ...
499
500       ...
501
502       ...
503
504       ...
505
506       ...
507
508       ...
509
510       ...
511
512       ...
513
514       ...
515
516       ...
517
518       ...
519
520       ...
521
522       ...
523
524       ...
525
526       ...
527
528       ...
529
530       ...
531
532       ...
533
534       ...
535
536       ...
537
538       ...
539
540       ...
541
542       ...
543
544       ...
545
546       ...
547
548       ...
549
550       ...
551
552       ...
553
554       ...
555
556       ...
557
558       ...
559
560       ...
561
562       ...
563
564       ...
565
566       ...
567
568       ...
569
570       ...
571
572       ...
573
574       ...
575
576       ...
577
578       ...
579
580       ...
581
582       ...
583
584       ...
585
586       ...
587
588       ...
589
590       ...
591
592       ...
593
594       ...
595
596       ...
597
598       ...
599
600       ...
601
602       ...
603
604       ...
605
606       ...
607
608       ...
609
610       ...
611
612       ...
613
614       ...
615
616       ...
617
618       ...
619
620       ...
621
622       ...
623
624       ...
625
626       ...
627
628       ...
629
630       ...
631
632       ...
633
634       ...
635
636       ...
637
638       ...
639
640       ...
641
642       ...
643
644       ...
645
646       ...
647
648       ...
649
650       ...
651
652       ...
653
654       ...
655
656       ...
657
658       ...
659
660       ...
661
662       ...
663
664       ...
665
666       ...
667
668       ...
669
670       ...
671
672       ...
673
674       ...
675
676       ...
677
678       ...
679
680       ...
681
682       ...
683
684       ...
685
686       ...
687
688       ...
689
690       ...
691
692       ...
693
694       ...
695
696       ...
697
698       ...
699
700       ...
701
702       ...
703
704       ...
705
706       ...
707
708       ...
709
710       ...
711
712       ...
713
714       ...
715
716       ...
717
718       ...
719
720       ...
721
722       ...
723
724       ...
725
726       ...
727
728       ...
729
730       ...
731
732       ...
733
734       ...
735
736       ...
737
738       ...
739
740       ...
741
742       ...
743
744       ...
745
746       ...
747
748       ...
749
750       ...
751
752       ...
753
754       ...
755
756       ...
757
758       ...
759
760       ...
761
762       ...
763
764       ...
765
766       ...
767
768       ...
769
770       ...
771
772       ...
773
774       ...
775
776       ...
777
778       ...
779
780       ...
781
782       ...
783
784       ...
785
786       ...
787
788       ...
789
790       ...
791
792       ...
793
794       ...
795
796       ...
797
798       ...
799
800       ...
801
802       ...
803
804       ...
805
806       ...
807
808       ...
809
810       ...
811
812       ...
813
814       ...
815
816       ...
817
818       ...
819
820       ...
821
822       ...
823
824       ...
825
826       ...
827
828       ...
829
830       ...
831
832       ...
833
834       ...
835
836       ...
837
838       ...
839
840       ...
841
842       ...
843
844       ...
845
846       ...
847
848       ...
849
850       ...
851
852       ...
853
854       ...
855
856       ...
857
858       ...
859
860       ...
861
862       ...
863
864       ...
865
866       ...
867
868       ...
869
870       ...
871
872       ...
873
874       ...
875
876       ...
877
878       ...
879
880       ...
881
882       ...
883
884       ...
885
886       ...
887
888       ...
889
890       ...
891
892       ...
893
894       ...
895
896       ...
897
898       ...
899
900       ...
901
902       ...
903
904       ...
905
906       ...
907
908       ...
909
910       ...
911
912       ...
913
914       ...
915
916       ...
917
918       ...
919
920       ...
921
922       ...
923
924       ...
925
926       ...
927
928       ...
929
930       ...
931
932       ...
933
934       ...
935
936       ...
937
938       ...
939
940       ...
941
942       ...
943
944       ...
945
946       ...
947
948       ...
949
950       ...
951
952       ...
953
954       ...
955
956       ...
957
958       ...
959
960       ...
961
962       ...
963
964       ...
965
966       ...
967
968       ...
969
970       ...
971
972       ...
973
974       ...
975
976       ...
977
978       ...
979
980       ...
981
982       ...
983
984       ...
985
986       ...
987
988       ...
989
990       ...
991
992       ...
993
994       ...
995
996       ...
997
998       ...
999
1000      ...

```

## 5 Conclusion

This paper describes the creation of a virtual museum to exhibit people's life stories, called the Museum of the Person (MP). Museum of the Person<sup>4</sup> was born in Brazil, São Paulo, in 1991, created by a group of historians who decided to build the country's history using testimonials of ordinary people [17]. Our work concerns the

<sup>4</sup>Accessible at: <http://www.museudapessoa.net>.

Portuguese branch of such network of life stories museums, npMP. From the life stories of individuals, the objective is to write up the stories of families, communities, or institutions.

After analyzing the documents that make up the repository, we designed OntoMP, an ontology for the Museum of the Person. The next stage after the validation and tuning of OntoMP was to describe it in a standard ontology format used for museums, CIDOC-CRM (CIDOC Conceptual Reference Model) complemented with some pertinent FOAF and DBpedia concepts and properties.

In this paper we propose a general architecture to build a software platform to create the museum's virtual exhibition rooms, as web pages, extracting information from the museum's repository. To implement the overall architecture outlined there are two possible alternative techniques. However, to refine this architecture, we chose approach 1. One approach uses a TripleStore to archive the ontology instances and resorts to SPARQL technology to query the repository and obtain the information that will be exhibited. The other approach uses a Relational Database as archive and reuses CaVa framework to extract and display the information. CaVa is a novel proposal under development in the context of the PhD project of one of the authors, and our first objective was to use npMP as a second case study to test that framework.

After implementing the approach 1, we came to the conclusion that to implement the first module (Ingestion Function) manually is a very lengthy process. So we decided to create a text filter to perform the three phases of this module automatically, as was discussed in the article.

As future work we intend to refine the filter in some aspects, particularly in the recursive episodes, among others in order to be possible to deal with all the documents stored in our present repository.

**Acknowledgements** This work has been supported by COMPETE: POCI-01-0145-FEDER-007043 and FCT – Fundação para a Ciência e Tecnologia within the Project Scope: UID/CEC/00319/2013. The work of Ricardo Martini is supported by CNPq, grant 201772/2014-0.

## References

1. Almeida, J.J., Rocha, J.G., Henriques, P.R., Moreira, S., Simões, A.: Museu da Pessoa-arquitectura. In: Encontro Nacional da Associação de Bibliotecários, Arquivista e Documentalistas, ABAD'01. BAD (2001)
2. Rodrigues, B.C., Crippa, G.: Novas Propostas e Desafios Das Mediações Culturais em Museus Virtuais. In: El Pensamiento Museológico Contemporáneo. O Pensamento Museológico Contemporâneo, pp. 599–608. ICOM (2011)
3. Philip, B.: Stafford. Museum of person, Technical report (2015)
4. Araújo, C.: An Ontology for the Museum of the Person Combining CIDOC-CRM with FOAF. Universidade do Minho, Msc pre-thesis (2016)
5. Martini, R.: Formal Description and Automatic Generation of Learning Spaces based on Ontologies. Universidade do Minho, Ph.D. pre-thesis (2015)
6. Simões, A., Almeida, J.J.: Histórias de Vida + Processamento Estrutural = Museu da Pessoa. In: XATA 2003 — XML: Aplicações e Tecnologias Associadas, pp. 16. Braga, Portugal (2003). UM

7. Martini, R.G., Araújo, C., Almeida, J.J., Henriques, P.R.: New advances in information systems and technologies: volume 2. In: chapter OntoMP, An Ontology to Build the Museum of the Person, pp. 653–661. Springer International Publishing, Cham (2016)
8. Araújo, C., Martini, R.G., Henriques, P.R., Almeida, J.J.: Architectural approaches to build the museum of the person. In: Rocha, Á., Reis, L.P., Cota, M.P., Suárez, O.S., Gonçalves, R. (eds.) *Sistemas y Tecnologías de Información—Atas da 11<sup>a</sup> Conferência Ibérica de Sistemas e Tecnologias de Informação*, volume Vol. I — Artículos de la Conferencia, pp. 383–388. AISTI–Associação Ibérica de Sistemas e Tecnologias de Informação, June 2016
9. Martini, R.G., Araújo, C., Librelotto, G.R., Henriques, P.R.: New advances in information systems and technologies. In: chapter A Reduced CRM-Compatible Form Ontology for the Virtual Emigration Museum, pp. 401–410. Springer International Publishing, Cham (2016)
10. ICOM/CIDOC. Definition of the CIDOC Conceptual Reference Model. Technical report, ICOM/CIDOC, May 2015
11. Allemang, D., Hendler, J.: *Semantic Web for the Working Ontologist: Effective Modeling in RDFS and OWL*. Elsevier Science (2011)
12. Al-Mukhtar, M.M.A., Al-Assafy, A.T.A.: The implementation of foaf ontology for an academic social network. *Int. J. Sci. Eng. Comput. Technol.* **4**(1), 10 (2014)
13. Dbpedia. Ontology. <http://wiki.dbpedia.org/> (2016). Accessed 15 June 2016
14. APACHE JENA. TDB. <https://jena.apache.org/documentation/tdb/index.html> (2016). Accessed 01 June 2016
15. APACHE JENA. Apache Jena Fuseki. <https://jena.apache.org/documentation/fuseki2/index.html> (2016). Accessed 01 June 2016
16. ANTLR. ANTLR. <http://www.antlr.org/> (2016). Accessed 14 Sept 2016
17. Worcman, K.: The museum of the person. In: *Virtual Museums*, vol. 57, no. 3. ICOM (2004)